

Application No. 10/084,981
Amendment J

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Docket No. NOD-002.01

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 38-40, 44, 46, 48-98, and 119-123 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 99-118 are canceled without prejudice to Applicant's right to re-present them in this or a related patent application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 38-40, 44, 46, 48-98, and 119-123 recite allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections: 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 99-118 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,870,065 to Kanaba et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,530,919 to Tsuru et al. ("Tsuru").

Claims 99-118 have been canceled, thereby mooted the rejection. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 17, 2008

By /SCOTT E. KAMHOLZ/
Scott E. Kamholz, Reg. No. 48,543
Stephen B. Deutsch, Reg. No. 46,663
FOLEY HOAG LLP
155 Seaport Blvd
Boston, Massachusetts 02210
617-832-1230
Attorneys for Applicant